

showed but little advance, though there was considerable loss of strength.

Tropical disturbance.—Below is an account of a tropical disturbance which was traced from the 18th to the 27th, originating near Turks Island and disappearing near Newfoundland. It caused no very intense winds; its movement was northward near the 72d meridian till about in the latitude of the Chesapeake Capes, then eastward or northeastward at a comparatively low speed.

Fog.—There was considerable fog during the period 21st to 25th within the 5°-square, 30° to 35° N., 70° to 75° W. This square lies about midway between Bermuda and the coasts of Georgia and South Carolina, and during part of this time the weather was greatly affected by the low already referred to as moving northward from the tropics.

Farther northward the region near the coast, as far as Cape Cod, had almost daily fog from the 20th onward, though there had been comparatively little before the 20th. The square 40° to 45° N., 70° to 75° W., reported fog on 14 days, and the square adjoining this to southward, on 13 days; these two squares are indicated as having much more fog than any others in North Atlantic waters. For localities to eastward and northeastward of Cape Cod, as far as the 55th meridian, a moderate number of fog reports are at hand, the majority of these being for days after the 20th.

From the Grand Banks region reports are not plentiful, but some fog is shown to have occurred, mainly about the 7th or the 20th.

TROPICAL DISTURBANCE OF MAY 18-27, 1940

By JEAN H. GALLENE

The first tropical disturbance of the 1940 season was of minor intensity throughout its entire existence. The depression originated a short distance to the southeast of Turks Island during the evening of May 18 and moved in a general northerly direction for a period of about 4 days; thereafter its progressive motion was toward the east and northeast, where its identity was lost in the area between Nova Scotia and Newfoundland on the morning of May 27.

A slight fall of barometric pressure was charted in the region near Puerto Plata and Turks Island on the evening of May 18. At that time cloudy weather, gentle east winds, and a barometer reading of 1,007.8 millibars (29.76 inches) were observed at Turks Island. However, during the next 12 hours the wind at that station shifted to the southwest, increasing to force 5, while the barometer continued to fall gradually to 1,007.1 millibars (29.74 inches).

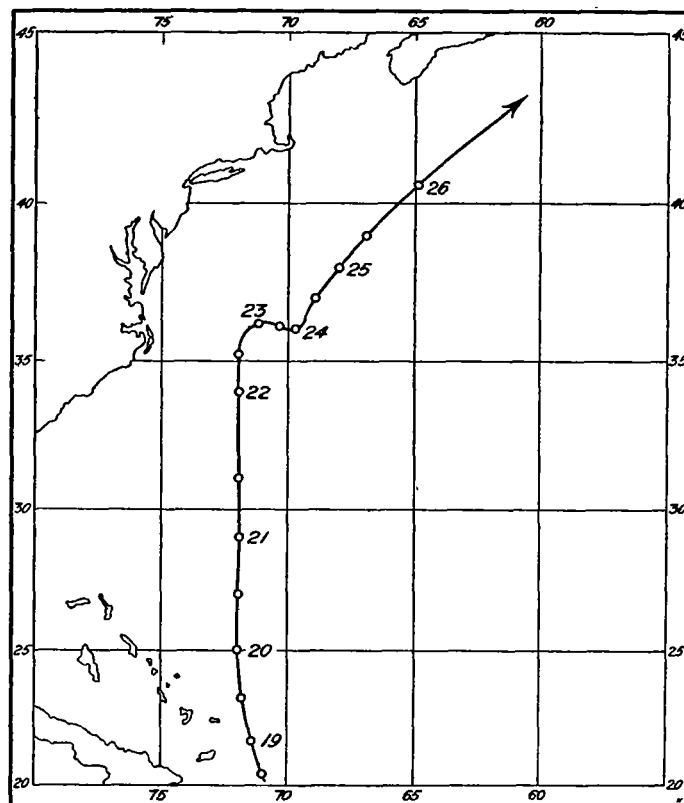
On the morning of May 19, a rather well-defined cyclonic circulation was observed, with the center of low pressure near latitude 22°45' N., and longitude 71°30' W. Winds of force 5-6 were noted in the northerly quadrant of the disturbance at this stage. (See figure.)

During the next 36 hours the disturbance moved in a general northerly direction, and reports from ships during that period indicate that strong to high winds were experienced over a considerable area.

Between 5 a. m. and 6 a. m. on May 21, the Belgian M. S. *Good Gulf* near latitude 30°12' N., and longitude 71° W. reported a barometer reading of 1,002.7 millibars (29.61

inches); wind southeast, force 8; heavy rain and very rough seas. The Belgian M. S. *Lubrafal* at midnight of the same day reported an easterly gale with a barometer reading of 995.6 millibars (29.40 inches) when near latitude 32°21' N., and longitude 71°52' W. This is the lowest barometer reading of record in connection with the disturbance. Several other vessels reported strong shifting winds and disturbed conditions on May 21.

The center was located near latitude 34° N., and 72° W. on the morning of the 22d; and from reports at hand, indications are that the barometric pressure had risen



somewhat as compared to that of the previous day and that the disturbance had become less violent.

At the morning observation of May 23, the disturbance was centered near latitude 36°15' N., and longitude 71°15' W. The progressive motion was then toward the east or slightly east-southeast, and on the following morning the center was at approximately 36° N., and 69°45' W. From that point it moved toward the northeast for the next 3 days and apparently merged with an area of low barometric pressure to the southwest of Newfoundland.

Gale winds of force 8 were the highest recorded in connection with this disturbance and no unusually low pressure was observed. No loss of life nor property damage has been reported.

Advisory warnings of the disturbance were issued by the Forecast Center at Jacksonville, Fla., on May 19 to 21.

This disturbance was unusual, in that from 1887 to date only four other occurrences of tropical cyclones have been recorded in the month of May; none was of hurricane intensity.